

TOWN OF EGREMONT, MASSACHUSETTS  
MEETING OF THE SELECT BOARD  
MINUTES

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Date: April 3, 2019

Time: 7:00pm

Place: Town Hall

Egremont

Present at the table were Chairman Turner, and Selectman Brazie. Vice-Chairman McGurn participated via phone.

Others in attendance: Mary McGurn, Charlie Proctor, Marj Wexler, Adam Chait, Lucinda Vermuelen, Kenn Basler, Elizabeth Keen.

Pledge of allegiance was recited.

It was announced that the meeting is video and audio recorded.

MINUTES:

The minutes of the March 6, March 12, March 13, March 20 and March 27 meetings were all accepted as presented.

CITIZEN'S TIME:

Charles Proctor complained that while he was away on vacation 2 large Maple Trees abutting his property were taken down and all the wood removed. No one seems to know who took them down or where the wood went. The Board will follow up.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Board voted unanimously to ratify both the Police Union contract and the Highway Union contract. Both Union's have ratified their respective contracts.

OLD BUSINESS:

The Board scheduled a pole location hearing for Fiber Connect for pole placements on Shun Toll Road and Boice Road for Wednesday, April 17 at 7pm.

The Board voted unanimously to accept the Broadband Network proposal from Fiber Connect and to appoint Jeff Lazarus and Rolfe Tessem to enter into negotiations with Fiber Connect to resolve open issues and come to agreement on a price that is acceptable to both parties. Jeff and Rolfe are to work with Town Counsel Jeremia Pollard and are to keep the Board apprised of the progress.

The Board discussed with Monterey Selectboard member Kenn Bassler a joint meeting with MBI officials to obtain assurance that the Town's will get their allotted MBI funding and preferably up front. Egremont already has the authorization to borrow and plans to do so to expedite the build out.

FOLLOW UPS/UPDATES:

The bid opening for the South Egremont School ADA Upgrades is Thursday, April 4 at 1pm. Three bids are expected. Planning for the new fence and playground will begin soon.

There has been no action or update on the remediation of the exterior lead paint at the School House. Rumor has it that parents have been told that students will move into the School House in mid-May. Selectboard member Brazie expressed her doubt that this was true.

The trees have been removed at the site of the Affordable Housing project so the driveway construction can begin soon. The Board of Health has reviewed the septic plan but will not issue a permit until such time as the homeowners agreement has been submitted as it is a shared system. This will delay the installation and require a request for an extension of the Small Housing Choice grant.

The Board agreed that the article to amend the Southern Berkshire Regional School District agreement assessment formula will go on the Annual Town Meeting warrant. The implementation of the new formula for the FY 2020 assessments is still unclear.

#### SELECTMEN'S ITEMS:

Chairman Turner is unable to attend the April 25 Berkshire County Selectmen's Association dinner as he will be out of the state. He was to receive his lifetime membership plaque. Office Administrator Brazie will ask that to be postponed.

Selectboard member Brazie expressed her concern, again, over the lack of Egremont Police coverage some nights. Recently there was a fire call that could have put our firemen in danger if not for a quick thinking dispatch operator as there was no Egremont Officer on duty. The Board agreed to draft a letter stating its concerns to the Police Chief. As our full-time Officer graduates from the academy next week and our new full-time officer comes on board May 1 seemingly this should not continue to happen.

The Board will meet on April 10, April 17 and May 1.

#### BUDGET REVIEW/TOWN MEETING PLANNING:

Elizabeth Keen has asked for a \$5,000 budget item for planning for a Pollinator Corridor through Egremont. The Board will discuss this at its April 10 meeting.

The Fire Chief has requested \$18,000 for a salary for FY 2020. The Board will discuss this at its April 10 meeting, but still needs an estimated number of hours and wants assurance that Fire Department members are aware of the request.

A first draft of the warrant was distributed to Board members for review at the April 10 meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55pm.

  
Mary Brazie  
Office Administrator

minutes.19/apr3

*The recording of the minutes is on record at the Town Hall for 90 days. Anyone who wishes to may obtain a copy or listen to the recording at Town Hall. Attachments are on file at Town Hall.*